

THE CIMARRON NEWS AND PRESS

NOTE—The type used in this heading is from the old plant of the Cimarron News and Press and was used for a heading for the paper in the seventies.

VOL I

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NO. 4

Governor's Message

Some of the Things the Chief Executive Believes Should be Done

The following are a few extracts from the message of Governor Hagerman to the New Mexico Legislature:

Gentlemen of the Council and House of Representatives of the Thirty-Seventh Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico:

It is the duty of the chief executive of New Mexico upon the convening of the legislature to furnish such information as is at his disposal concerning the conditions of the territory, and to offer such suggestions and recommendations concerning new legislation as he may think advisable. In doing this I wish to assure you that it is my most earnest desire to fully and sincerely co-operate with you in the enactment of such legislation as will result in the advancement of the territory and in bettering the condition of your constituents.

After congratulating "The people upon their enlarged industries in sheepraising, cattle raising, new railroads and the various developments in all parts of the territory the governor has this to say of the

Coal Lands.

While much has recently been accomplished in the exploitation and development of our coal lands, they are of such vast extent that it will take many more lines of railway than now exist to furnish outlets for the coal and coke produced from them, products for which there is an ever-increasing demand throughout the country.

Banks.

There have been many new banks established in the territory and the deposits during the past two years have more than doubled.

Irrigation.

Through the National Reclamation Service and private enterprise many new irrigation projects, which will reclaim great areas of land have been decided upon and the work on some of them commenced.

Constitutional Convention.

At the present time the meeting of a constitutional convention composed either of the delegates elected in New Mexico under the joint statehood act or of others, would not, in my opinion, be useful, and I believe that in the opinion of a large majority of the taxpayers of the territory, the appropriation by the legislature of money to defray all or part of the expenses of such a convention would be unwise.

The governor speaks with pride of the management of the territorial penitentiary and its finances, and points out its needs, which include the completion of the new cell house, a new dining room and an electric power plant. The average cost of maintenance for each man per day

A POPULAR MAGAZINE WRITER TELLS OF EARLY HISTORY OF COLFAX COUNTY AND CIMARRON

Building New Road Rapidly

The Santa Fe, Raton & Des Moines Railroad company are steadily pushing the work of their company from Raton to Des Moines. The track is laid with steel rails for two and one-half miles beyond Carrisbrook and the grading is being done from Des Moines toward the work at this end. East of Des Moines contracts are let and work is being done at various points from that place to Englewood, Kansas. A large amount of steel ready to be laid as soon as grading is done, lies at Des Moines in the company's yards.

The management of the company is hastening the work in every possible way and hopes to have the road far along toward completion at an early date.

The Raton Eastern companies are in the middle of things as it were, if the weather stays cold they will cut much ice but cannot grade for their railroads and vice-versa so they make and lose either way.

is 49 cents and the average cost of food per individual is \$52.39 per year. On December 1, 1906, the balance on hand in all funds was \$4,078.38; accounts receivable, \$6,676.28; accounts payable, \$702.92.

Interesting statistics are given in the report as to the cost of maintenance.

The average cost per man for the feeding of officers, employees, guards and prisoners during the 56th fiscal year was \$55.17, and during the 57th fiscal year, \$52.39.

The actual cost of maintaining the penitentiary for the 56th and 57th fiscal year is shown to be \$79,330.60, or an average cost per day, per man, for the total period of about forty-nine cents.

During the two years 249 new prisoners were received and 213 were discharged.

The insane asylum, the institutions for the deaf, dumb and blind, and the reform school are too large for present needs. The deaf, dumb and blind should all be cared for in one institution as in most other states.

Cattle and Sheep Sanitary Boards.

The raising of sheep and cattle are the two most important industries in the territory. The organization and conduct of the sheep and cattle sanitary boards is a matter of much importance not only to the stock raisers but to the territory at large.

The report of the sheep sanitary board:

Since its organization \$88,597.96 have been received from fees on outgoing and incoming sheep, from the territorial tax on sheep, from fines and other sources; and \$72,898.54 have been expended for inspectors.

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There is such a world of wealth in the historical features of the Cimarron country, it is a wonder some bright writers have not dwelt for years here in the vicinity, learning of the days gone by and living in the atmosphere which surrounds a locality so rich in lore. George Baker Anderson, a writer in Out West, has given the following, which we deem worthy of a place in the literature of the west. It deals with the history of Lucian Benjamin Maxwell and the town of Cimarron, and while fact has been in a measure sacrificed to romance, it tells many a true tale of the days when men were men:

(By George Baker Anderson.)

In Out West.

During the first half of the seventeenth century, when the island of Manhattan was for the most part virgin wilderness, and before even the far-seeing British government considered the lands bordering upon the now historic Hudson as worthy of the stretching out of a hand, the government of the Netherlands—equally indifferent as to what became of the wild country to the north, fit only for fur-trading operations, as it believed—granted to one of its subjects a large tract of land bordering upon that river, conferring upon him practically sovereign rights therein. Thus did Killen Van Rensselaer, a wealthy diamond merchant of Amsterdam, become the first "patron" of the "Manor of Rensselaerwyck," a vaguely described body of land embracing somewhere in the neighborhood of a thousand square miles.

While the Manor of Rensselaerwyck was to all intents and purposes essentially a feudal estate, as much so as a European barony of that day, Van Rensselaer, the patron, or lord, never saw it, but continued to live in civilized luxury in his home in the Netherlands, leaving the administration of this estate to his agents, and many of those who became his heirs. Other manors were founded—in New York, in Pennsylvania and in New Jersey—but Rensselaerwyck was the only one which endured, even throughout the long period elapsing between the time of the British occupation of New Amsterdam, of Manhattan, and the years immediately preceding the revolution.

From the days when the Manor of Rensselaerwyck flourished up to the closing years of the Mexican occupation and control of what is now the American territory of New Mexico, a period covering about two centuries—further attempts at planting and with a legal status, maintaining quasi-feudal estates were signalized, for the most part by dismal failure. It remained for Lucian Benjamin Maxwell, a native of Kaskaskia, Ill., and one of the most striking figures of the early mountain frontier, to found a successful American barony. This was the famous "Maxwell ranch," or Maxwell Land Grant, as it is more commonly known in these days, a body of land, which, under the shrewd manipulation of capitalists and politicians, grew in one generation from a relatively insignificant tract, located principally on the plains bordering upon the Red river in northern New Mexico, to an estate equal in extent to something less than three times the area of Rhode Island. The original grant was limited by law to twenty-two square leagues, but in the documents giving judicial possession the alcande described boundaries which included between three and four hundred thousand acres of rich coal lands—the greatest unbroken body of that mineral in the United States.

In 1823 Charles Hipolyte Beaubien, a French-Canadian, visited the province of Nueva Mejico, in company with a number of his fellow countrymen, in the expectation that he might find an opportunity of investing his money with better prospects of profit than the east afforded. About that time Guadalupe Miranda, of Juarez, then known as "Paso del Norte,"

Mexico, received from the generous paternal republic of Mexico a grant to a tract lying in the southern part of what is now Colfax county, New Mexico. Beaubien and Miranda entered into a partnership for the operation of the privileges accompanying this grant, the former finally purchasing of Miranda his interest therein, holding the entire property until 1846. In the latter year Beaubien removed from Taos, which had been his home for twenty-three years, to the Cimarronito, and found Maxwell located a short distance north of the famous Abreu ranch, where a company of United States regulars were stationed for the protection of traffic over the Santa Fe trail.

At this time Maxwell was herding sheep in a primitive way. About one hundred and fifty yards south of his rude adobe hut stood a house built by Kit Carson, and then occupied by him. The two men, having much in common—both lovers of the free, adventurous life which the mountains offered—soon became fast friends, and remained so until death separated them. Maxwell's sheep multiplied, and as the years rolled by his wealth increased so rapidly that, in spite of his profligacy, he could not rid himself of the burden it seemed to impose. He tried gambling, but, although it is said that he never "stacked the cards" his poker playing served only to add to his accumulation of treasure.

At this time the whole region between "El Pueblo," in Colorado, and Fernando de Taos, in New Mexico, was almost unbroken—certainly unexplored, excepting those portions traversed by the few traders traveling between Santa Fe and the Missouri river. But every trader, every majordomo, every teamster, every soldier who passed over this part of the trail knew Maxwell, and most of them were known to him by name.

Charles Beaubien died February 10, 1864, and Maxwell purchased the grant from the heirs, becoming its sole proprietor. All restrictions as to the grazing of sheep now being removed, his wealth increased at a still greater rate. He had built for himself a great house at Cimarron, and here he continued to entertain in lavish style all comers—and there were many. During the height of his power and wealth he lived in barbaric splendor. He lived for the sheer pleasure of living, in utter disregard of the expense of the necessities and luxuries of life. Under his indifferent direction, thousands of acres of his grant were cultivated in a most primitive fashion by native Mexicans, who, though as completely enslaved as the vassals of the ancient Goths and Saxons, were nevertheless kindly treated. His word was absolute law with them. They loved their master as a friend and kindly adviser, and never appealed to him for amelioration of their condition in vain—provided the lord of the domain did not shrewdly suspect them of misrepresentation.

Maxwell's home at Cimarron which is still standing, was as much of a palace as the time and the country afforded. Some of its apartments were most sumptuously furnished, after the prevailing Mexican style, while others were devoid of everything but table, chairs and cards for poker or "old sledge." He was an inveterate gambler. On occasions when his winnings were heavy, he would sometimes lend to the loser, the next morning, two or three times as much as he had won from him. Though he played for amusement only, and never with any whom he did not number among his personal friends, he always insisted upon a stake. Many men who were widely known throughout the southwest in those days were his guests, and most of them had cause to remember his prowess at the game of "draw." Kit Carson, ex-Governor Thomas Boggs, Richens (Uncle Dick) Wooten, Don

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Severely Injured in Runaway

From the Raton Range.

J. R. Schulte was severely injured Monday morning by being thrown from a buggy near Blossburg. Mr. Schulte and a younger child, Miss Schulte, secured a livery rig Monday morning and started to Blossburg, where Mr. Schulte has some contracts. On the way the horse became frightened, and unmanageable and in attempting to avert a telephone pole, Mr. Schulte turned the horse too sharp and the buggy was over-turned. He was severely injured about the head and back. Miss Schulte was not injured, and the child also escaped.

KILLED BY FALL OF ROCK AT YANKEE.

Henry A. Turner, colored, was killed at Yankee late last week, by a fall of rock in one of the mines. Turner was crushed under a solid rock ten feet long by two feet square.

HAS PURCHASED SUGAR BEET LAND IN COLORADO.

M. Clark has gone to his ranch in Colorado to build a ranch house. Mr. Clark purchased this ranch early in January. It consists of six hundred and forty acres of sugar beet land and is in a splendid location for that industry. It lies six miles from Manzanola and near La Junta and Rocky Ford. Mr. Clark expects to get it under cultivation this season and will send some one there to superintend it soon.

MESA FARMER LOSES BARN BY ACIDENTAL FIRE.

The barn of Henry Floyd, on Johnson's mesa, was destroyed by fire on Monday morning. Mr. Floyd was cremating a calf which had died from some contagious disease and which he left for a few moments, when the wind carried the fire into the barn and completely consumed it. The loss, consisting of the barn, a large amount of feed and some harness amounted to about three hundred dollars.

MRS. MARIA SALAS DIES.

Mrs. Maria Salas, aged 31 years, died at the Sisters' hospital at 9:30 o'clock yesterday morning of dropsy, after being there for nine days. She was brought here for treatment from her home in Folsom, N. M., but too late to do her any good. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andreas Salazar, of Watress, N. M., to which point her remains will be shipped this morning.—Trinidad Advertiser.

Captured Raton Chef Who Lifted Utensils

I. W. Howard, the Seaberg hotel chef, who made away with the most of the portable kitchen utensils a week or two ago and made his escape, was captured in Las Vegas last week and returned to this city by Sheriff Littrell. It appears that Howard cashed some checks in Las Vegas to pay gambling debts, which got him into custody there. Howard admits having been gambling and that he cashed one check, but strenuously insists that the articles he took from the hotel were his own. He claims that Mr. Seaberg

Wheel and Whistle

Minor Events of the Past Week among Railroad Men About the [County].

W. H. Wattis, vice-president and general manager of the Utah Construction Co., was in the city last week.

Frank Stites of Trinidad, who has a grading contract at Dawson, reports that three hundred houses have been finished and one hundred more contracted for.

H. J. Hollingsworth, a member of the Utah Construction Co. clerical staff, returned to Ogden, Utah, for a short visit to his parents before leaving for the company's new work in Oregon.

Interstate Commerce Commissioner Prouty has made a suggestion that rate sheets be published showing the loss that it would cause the common carriers entering Denver from all Missouri river points if the present rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per hundred was reduced to one dollar per hundred. This contemplated reduction will be of interest to all Colorado and New Mexico points.

W. A. Gorman, general passenger agent for the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific railway, returned last Thursday from a trip to Denver, where he has been arranging a schedule of rates over the Colorado & Southern to Des Moines and into Raton over their road.

From the present indications the road will be open for Denver business near February the fifteenth. Freight from Denver will be handled on a thirty-six hour schedule.

HAVE RETURNED HOME.

From the Raton Range.

Butler Jones, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. W. W. Jones, returned to Trinidad yesterday. Mrs. Jones returned from a visit to Dawson, N. M., where her husband is superintendent of coke ovens. Her son, Butler Jones, has been in Old Mexico and met his mother in Dawson. He leaves tonight for Denver having accepted a position as brakeman out of that city for the Colorado & Southern road.—Trinidad Chronicle-News.

ANDREWS-LARRAZOLA MATTERS BUBBLING OVER.

Several hundred subpoenas have been issued this week in the matter of the Larrazola-Andrews election contest, and the testimony of the witnesses is being heard by Attorney John T. Hill. The testimony will then go to the committee in congress, for action. It is understood the contest will involve several counties in the territory. San Miguel county will not be included.

THREE MINERS ENTOMBED

Another serious mine accident for this section occurred at ten o'clock Monday in Willow Mine No. 5, near van Houten. The mine was discovered to be on fire at a point beyond the 2,000-foot level. All the miners escaped except three, who were cut off by the fire. Every human effort was made to rescue the unfortunate men, and Superintendent of Mines French directed his forces for hours in the desperate attempts at rescue. Late in the day all hope of rescue or even that the men could be alive, was abandoned, and the mine was ordered closed so that the fire could be extinguished. The fire was well under control Tuesday night.